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TOP CAT

TOP CAT

NO. 10
APR.
CDC

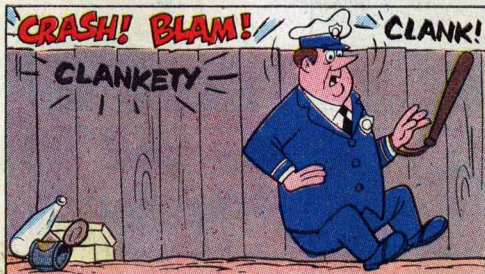
20¢



RAY
DIRGO

00749

TOP CAT in HAPPY BIRTHDAY



TOP CAT Vol. 3, No. 10, April, 1972.

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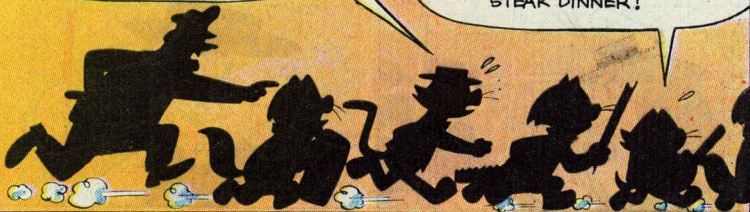
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FASTER, BOYS! I THINK DIBBLE'S
PEEVED AT US FOR SOME
REASON!??

PUFF! PUFF! I HAVEN'T RUN
THIS FAST SINCE THE BIG BULL DOG
CAUGHT ME STEALIN' HIS T-BONE
STEAK DINNER!



OKAY, BOYS! THIS CALLS FOR PLAN
EIGHTY-TWO!!

ROGER, T.C.!!



THIS WILL REALLY SURPRISE
DIBBLE!

HA HA HA!



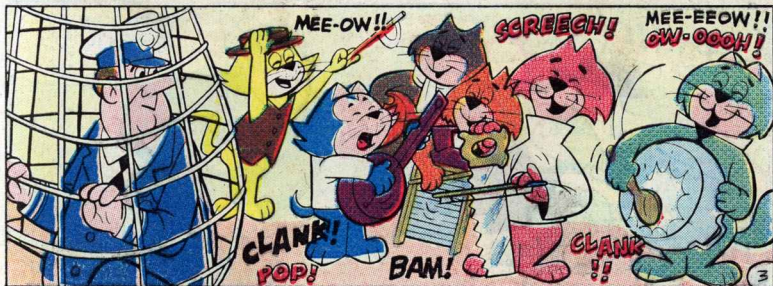
HALT! IN THE
NAME OF THE
LAW!

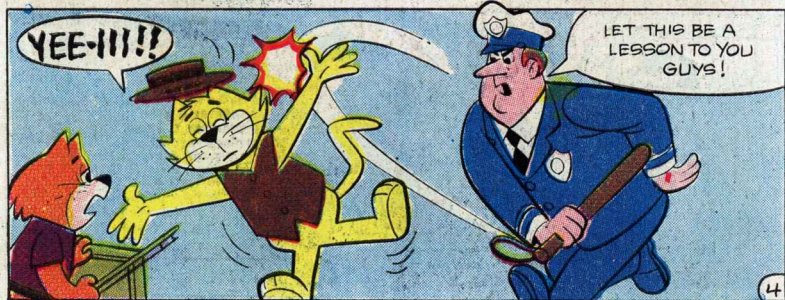


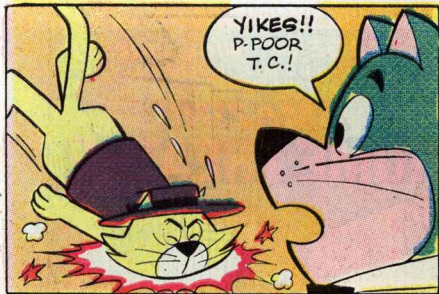
WE GOT
HIM!

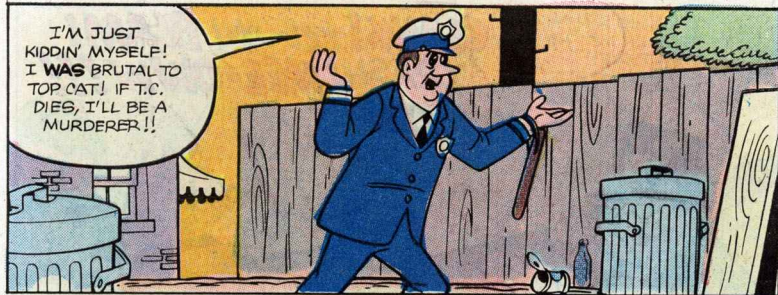


W-WHAT
THE...
?!?









I'M JUST
KIDDIN' MYSELF!
I **WAS** BRUTAL TO
TOP CAT! IF T.C.
DIES, I'LL BE A
MURDERER!!



I'LL TURN MYSELF IN! I'LL TAKE
WHAT'S COMIN' TA ME!



I DESERVE TO
SPEND THE REST
OF MY LIFE BEHIND
BARS! POOR T.C.
WOULD BE ALIVE
AND WELL IF I
HADN'T LOST MY
TEMPER!



BEFORE I GO TO
JAIL, THERE'S
SOMETHIN' I GOTTA
DO! POOR TOP CAT
WOULD WANT IT
THIS WAY!!



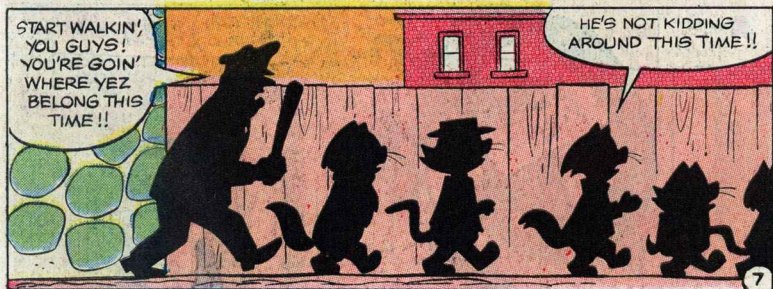
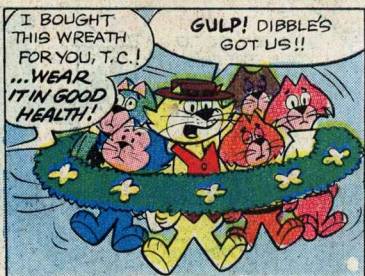
A
AND
SO...

THIS WREATH
FOR HIS GRA...

EEE-OH!!

WHAT'S
THAT
RACKET?

CLANG!
CRASH! MEE-OH!



THIS IS THE NOTORIOUS TOP CAT GANG, SARGE!
I'M GONNA THROW THE BOOK AT THEM!

WE'LL PUT
THEM ALL IN
SOLITARY!
NICE WORK,
DIBBLE!

YEAH AND DON'T FEED
THEM ANYTHING BUT
BREAD AND WATER!

JUST AS YOU
SAY, DIBBLE!

BEFORE YOU THROW AWAY
THE KEY, OFFICER, MAY
WE HAVE ONE LAST
REQUEST?

OFFICER,
DIBBLE, PLEASE
LET US SING
SOMETHING?

AND SO...

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU —
HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!!

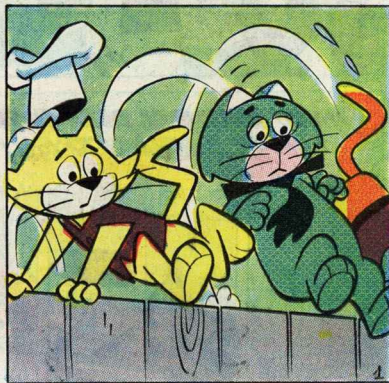
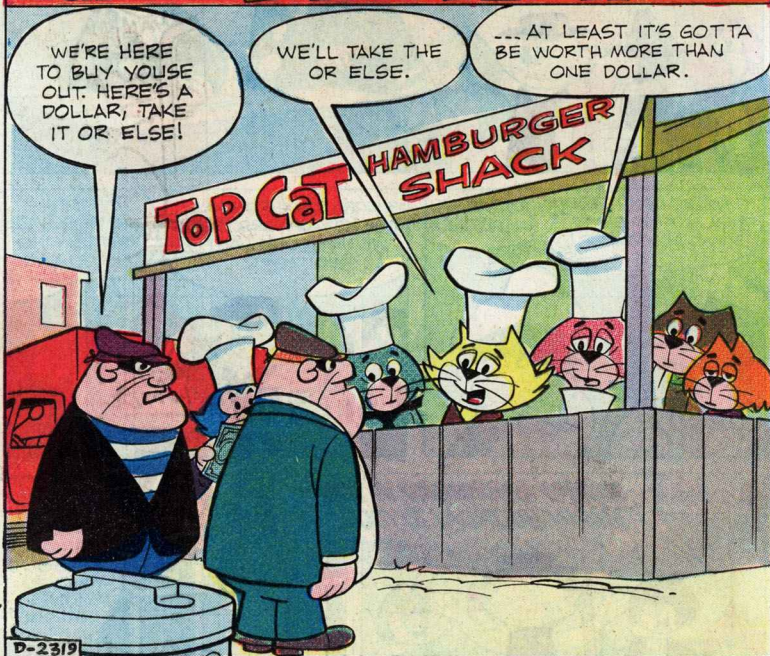
HOW'D YOU
GUYS KNOW
IT WAS MY
BIRTHDAY?
IS **THIS**
WHY YOU
WERE RE-
HEARSIN'?

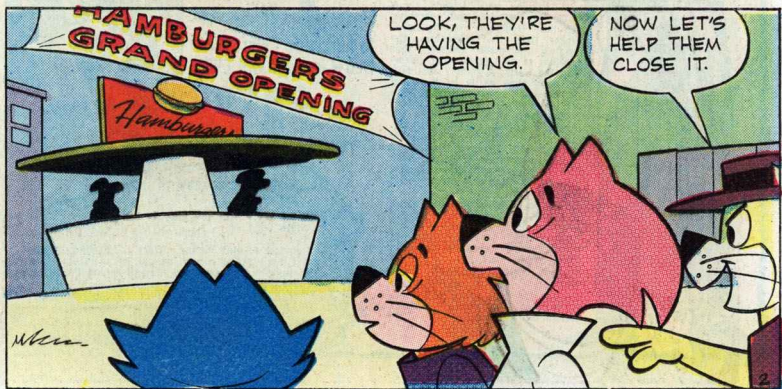
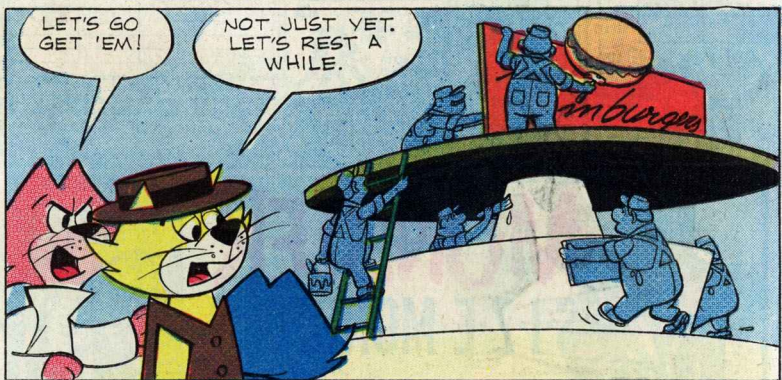
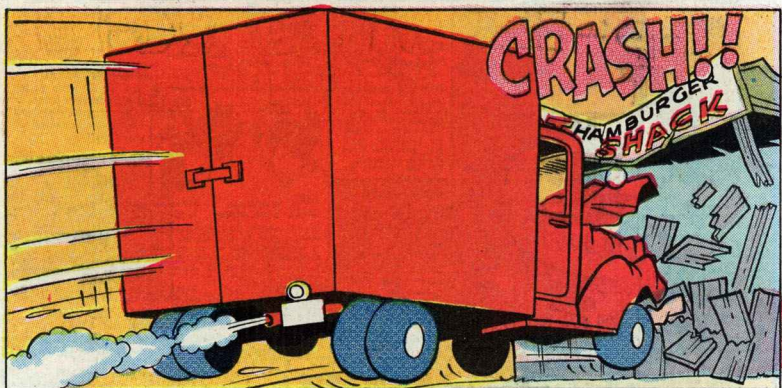
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DEAR DIBBLE —
HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU! bbb

AW, SHUCKS! I'M SORRY I
TREATED YOU GUYS SO BAD!
I... I'LL PAY YOUR FINE... YEZ
ARE ALL FREE RIGHT NOW!!

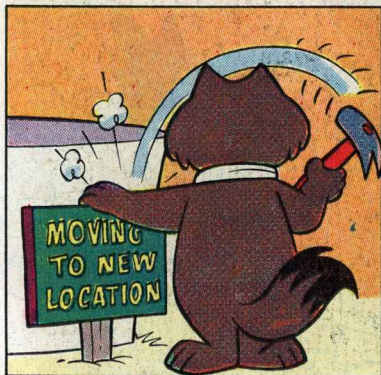
END

Top Cat in: HAMBURGER STAND-IN





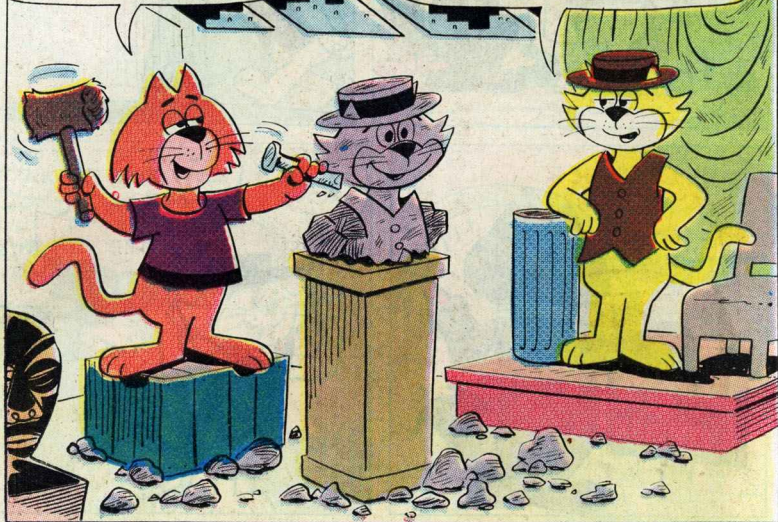
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TOP CAT in "BIG HEAD"

I'M SCULPTING YOU IN STONE, TOP CAT. YOU'LL BE **IMMORTAL** !

GREAT! BUT I CAN'T HOLD THIS POSE MUCH LONGER - I'M GETTING TIRED !



YAWN

OKAY, TAKE A BREAK, TC .

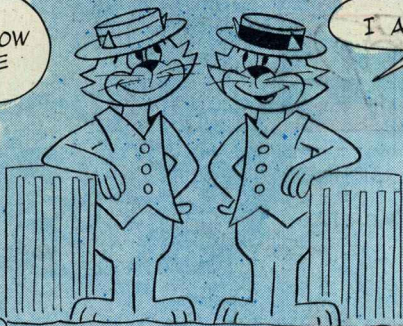


I'LL JUST CLOSE MY EYES FOR A MINUTE...



TOP CAT, A FELLOW
WITH YOUR FAME
SHOULD HAVE
A LIFE-SIZE
STATUE !

I AGREE.



MAYBE **BIGGER**
THAN LIFE-SIZE !



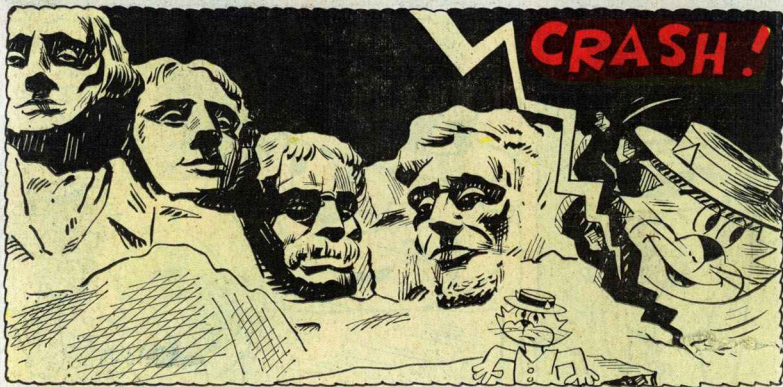
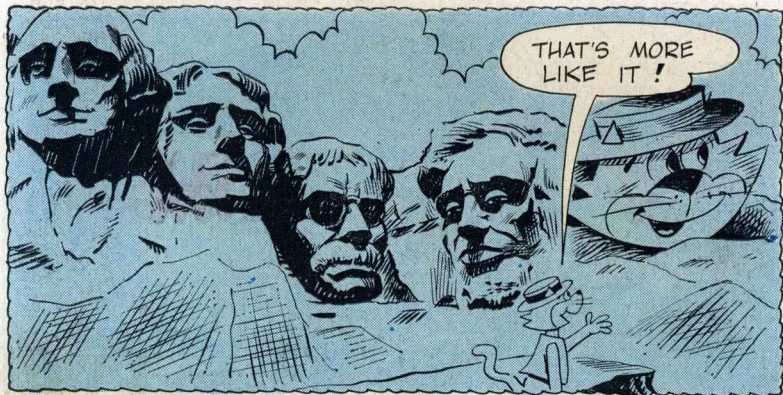
THERE.

BUT, OL' BUDDY-
NO ONE CAN
SEE IT HERE IN
THIS ROOM !



GET THIS **THING**
OUT OF HERE !!





in

A SMELLY SITUATION

I HEAR A BIG CONVENTION IS
COMING TO TOWN TOMORROW!
SHOULD BE PLENTY OF
EXCITEMENT THEN!

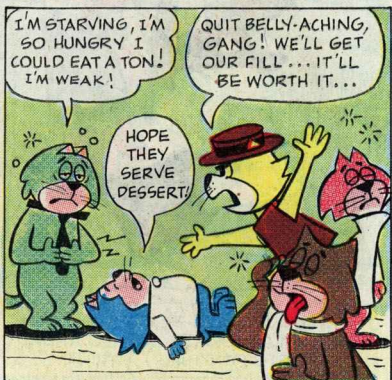
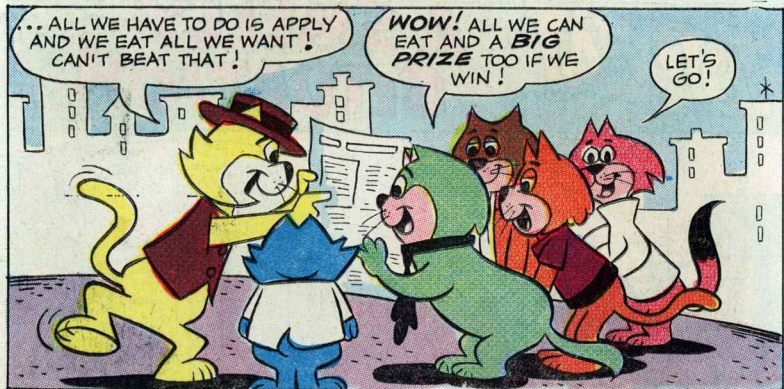
SURE HOPE SO! WE
CAN'T STAND THIS
BOREDOM MUCH
LONGER!

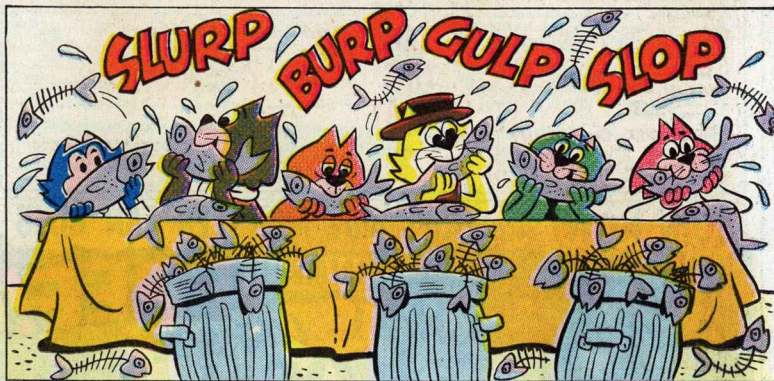
GWEN
KRAUSE
RAY
DIRGO
11

C'MON, FELLOWS, LET'S GO
WATCH 'EM DECORATE
THE STREETS FOR THE
BIG AFFAIR!

YOU GUYS
GO AHEAD!
THINK I'LL
JUST HANG
AROUND AND
RELAX!

WHAT'S THIS? "CONTESTANTS WANTED FOR SALMON EATING CONTEST! APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED AT CONVENTION HALL!" OH, BOY, THAT'S FOR US! I'LL HAVE TO CATCH UP WITH THE GANG AND GIVE THEM THE GOOD NEWS!

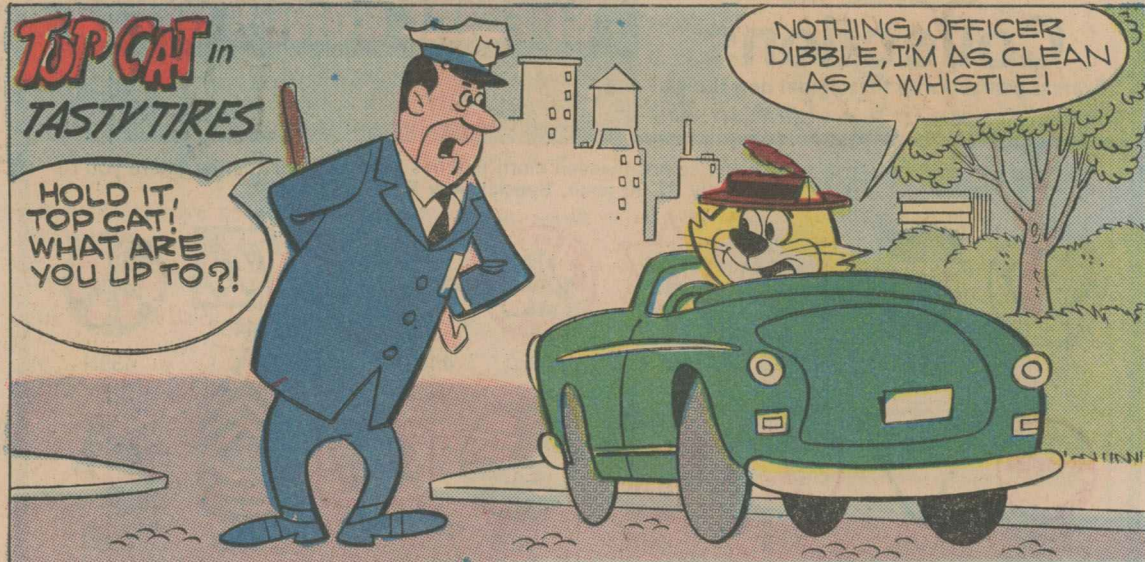




TOP CAT in TASTY TIRES

HOLD IT,
TOP CAT!
WHAT ARE
YOU UP TO?!

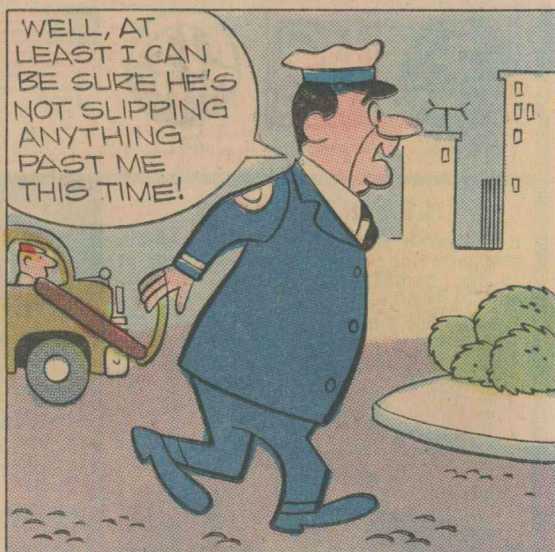
NOTHING, OFFICER
DIBBLE, I'M AS CLEAN
AS A WHISTLE!



I'VE GOT TO KEEP
AN EYE ON HIM....
I HEAR HE'S BEEN
SNITCHING
PIZZAS AGAIN!



WELL, AT
LEAST I CAN
BE SURE HE'S
NOT SLIPPING
ANYTHING
PAST ME
THIS TIME!



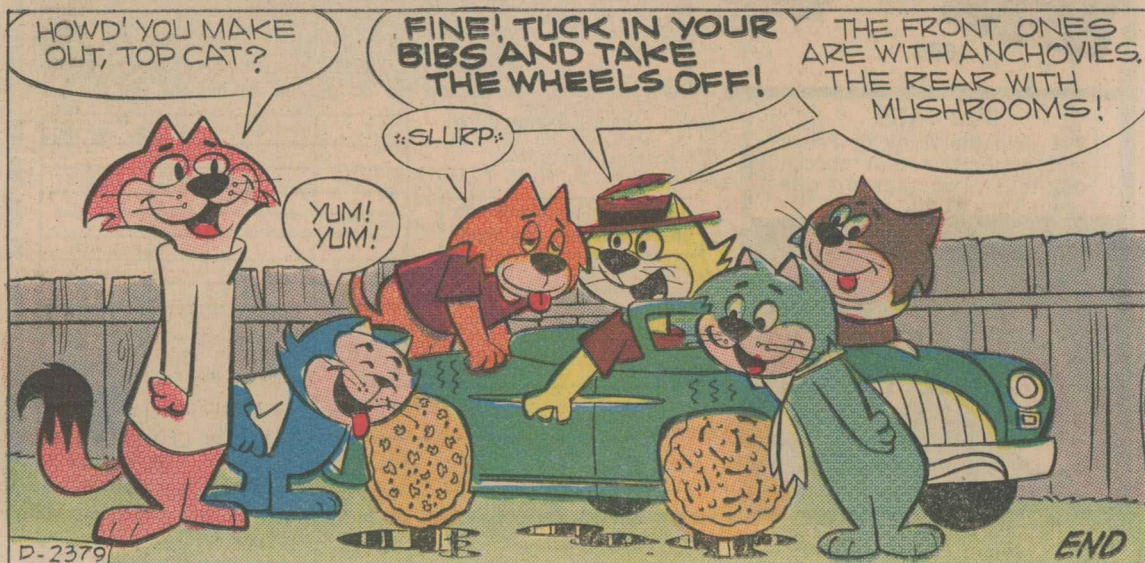
HOW'D YOU MAKE
OUT, TOP CAT?

FINE! TUCK IN YOUR
BIBS AND TAKE
THE WHEELS OFF!

THE FRONT ONES
ARE WITH ANCHOVIES.
THE REAR WITH
MUSHROOMS!

::SLURP::

YUM!
YUM!



FRANK FREEMAN *the* FAMOUS FISHERMAN of FREEDONER

Frank Freeman was the best known fisherman in the town of Freedoner. The town was located inland in the state. The nearest lake was exactly seventy eight miles to the West. And it was a private lake. But because of his fame, our hero was permitted to fish on that lake. He always wore the finest fishing clothing that money could buy. And his rod and reel also were very expensive. When he walked the streets of his home town all dressed up as a fisherman should be, the boys would gaze at him and remark:

"He is the most famous fisherman in the entire world. Never fails to come home with all the trout he can carry."

"Gee, when I grow up, I hope I can be as famous as he is. They had his picture in the newspaper."

"He must have some magic way to catch fish. The only man who has never failed to catch fish."

And among the adult population of the town the talk was about the same. With but one difference. They wanted to be invited to a fish dinner at his home when he came home with his legal catch of trout.

"Oh, hope we are lucky to be invited this time. What a difference between fresh fish and the kind that they sell in the store."

"I ordinarily don't like fish. But fresh fish, now that is something entirely different. We expect to be invited to the next dinner at his house."

He was invited to give talks to the boys on how to be a successful fisherman. So you can see that he really was famous. On this particular day, he had already invited five couples to have the fish supper at his home.

"It would be terrible if one day you didn't catch fish," sighed his wife. "Then what would we do? Serve them steaks? But I have faith in you."

But as he drove along the highway with pride in his eyes, he did not know that Fate had something different in store for him this time. For, Touie the Trout has been sent by the Fish Union to give a talk to the fish in that private lake. Said Touie the Trout to the assembled fish on the bottom of the fresh water:

"Your great menace is none other than Frank Freeman. But this time things will be different. Just make up your mind that you will not go for a worm this day. Nor for anything that seems to move quickly through the water. He uses both worms and lures. Today the Union had declared it to be a day of fasting. Then if you

fast, you can't be caught by the fisherman. We don't care just how hungry you may feel. You want to survive. And if you do, then his fame will come to an end."

"But what about our little ones?" questioned a mother trout. "How do we protect them?"

"They will be gathered together under strict guard," explained Touie the Trout. "We have some worms that they can eat. But only when I feed these worms to them. We well understand that you wish to protect your young ones."

Unaware of this, the famous fisherman began casting into the water of the private lake. Normally, he would catch his first fish within half an hour. One hour passed. Then another. Not even the slightest nibble on his line. He began to feel uncomfortable. Then he even worried.

"Something must have happened," he said half aloud. "This just can't be! Where are the fish? I can't go home without them?"

And then as the sun in the sky was about to set, he realized that for the first time in his life he had met defeat. Not a single fish did he have to bring home. And what about the company that was coming to his house to stay for supper? Five couples meant ten people and he would need ten trout to feed them. Plus two more, one for his wife and one for himself. Sadly he walked to his car. He packed all his fishing gear. Suddenly he became aware of an old man standing next to him.

"Seems to me you haven't caught a fish. I can tell by the expression on your face," said the stranger. "When you drive to the village, stop at Mike's Market. He has frozen trout from Canada. Buy them. They will defrost by the time you get home."

Which is just what our hero did. He gave the fish to his wife who gave him in return a big kiss.

"I knew you would not fail us. You are still the Famous Fisherman. Our company will be highly pleased with these wonderful trout."

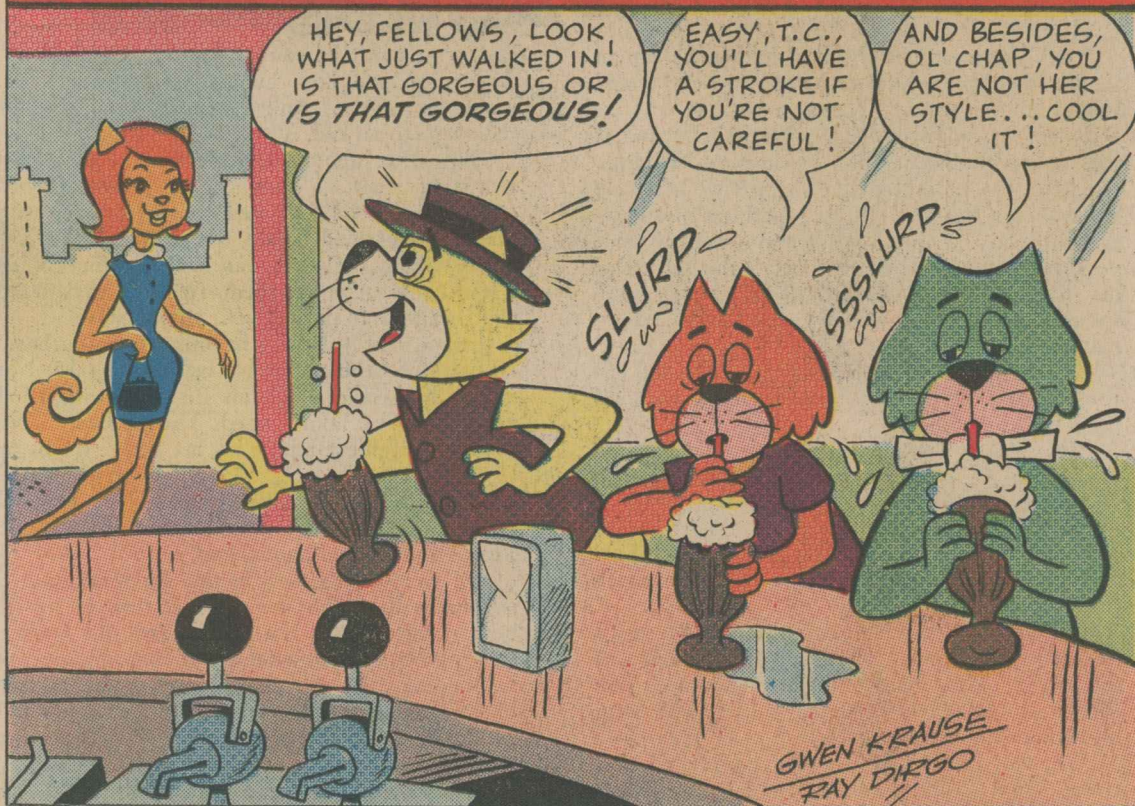
And so they were. No praise was good enough for the meal that they had eaten.

"You can serve as a consultant at a big salary to my new company," said Tom Wilson, head of the Wilson Sport Factories. "You must have some secret that has made you famous."

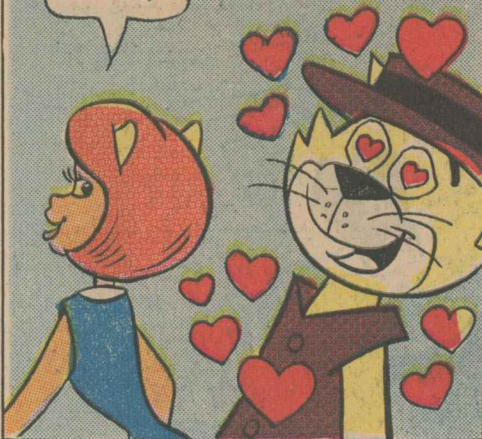
When the last of the visitors left, Mrs. Freeman turned to her husband.

"The trout were delicious. Also wonderful. I can't figure out how they came from Canada into that lake. But I did remove the 12 metal tags that showed they were from the country on the other side of the border. Your reputation as a fisherman is still intact."

TOP CAT in "For Better or WORSE"



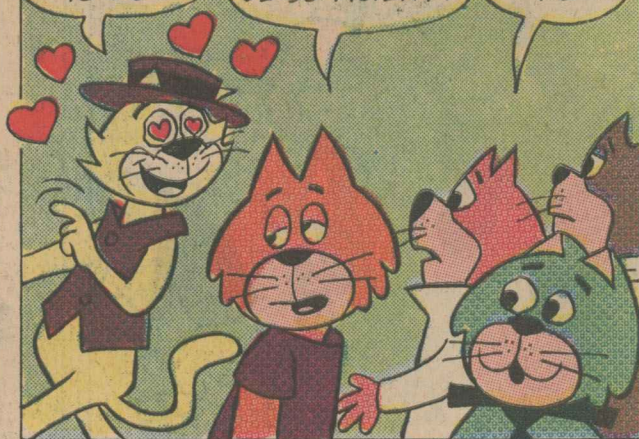
TEE HEE...MY NAME IS PRISSY !
I'M NEW IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD!
BYE NOW, T.C., I REALLY MUST
GO!



SEE YOU GUYS
LATER...I'VE
GOT THINGS
TO DO!

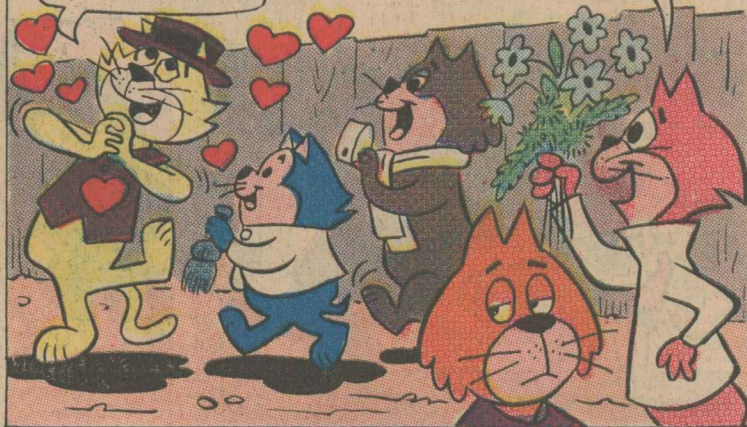
A WORD TO
THE WISE SHOULD
BE SUFFICIENT!

TSK, TSK
BUT YOU'RE
TALKIN' TO
T.C.!



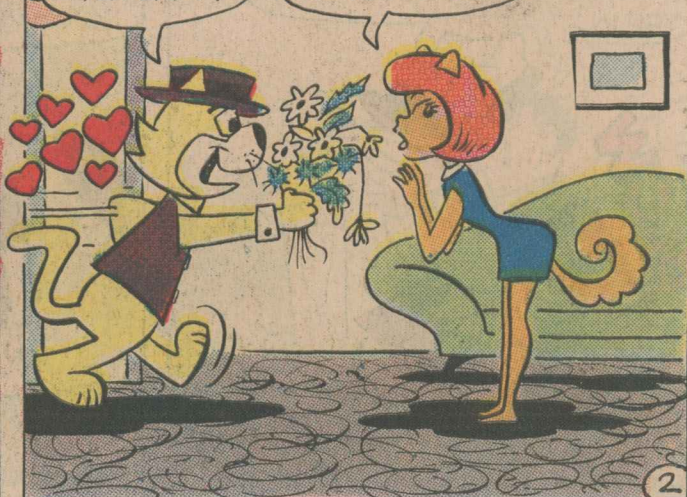
...SHE LIVES IN A CUTE LITTLE
COTTAGE AT TWEETY LANE AND
LOVE BIRD AVE.!! I JUST HAVE
TO SEE HER!

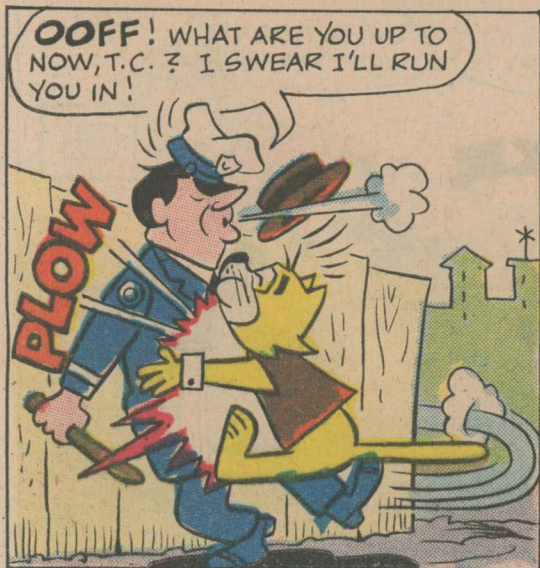
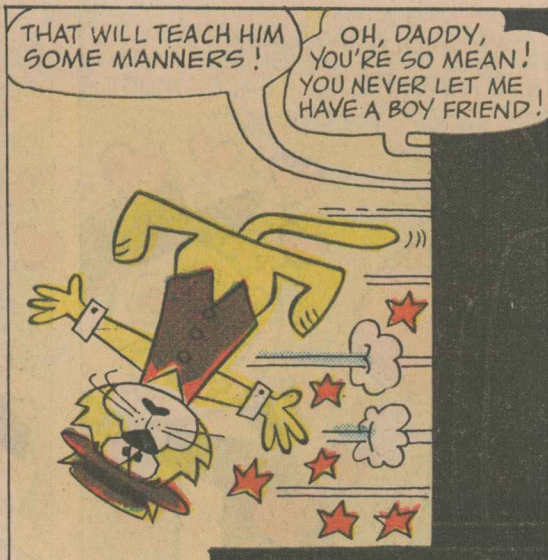
BETTER BE CAREFUL,
T.C., WE WOULDN'T
WANT TO LOSE YOU!



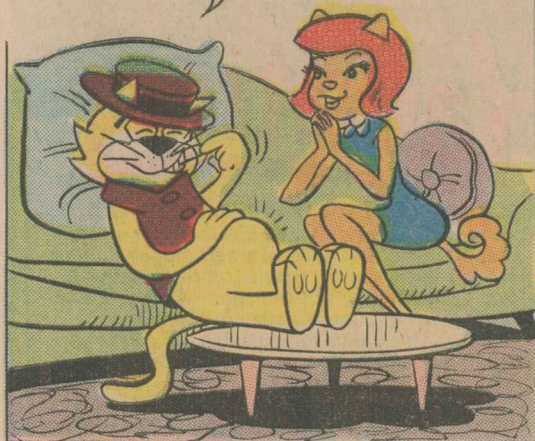
FOR YOU, MY
FAIR LADY!

OH, BUT DADDY
WON'T LIKE THIS..

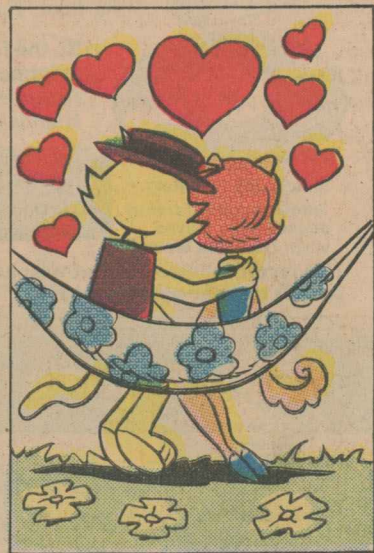
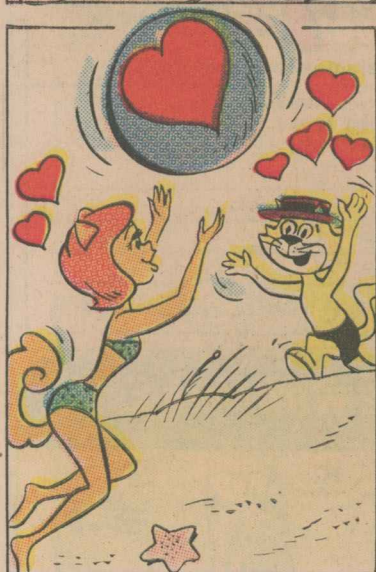
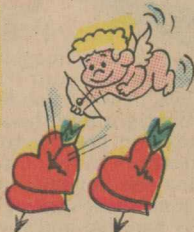




THAT WAS A SWELL TUNA
CASSEROLE, PRISSY!

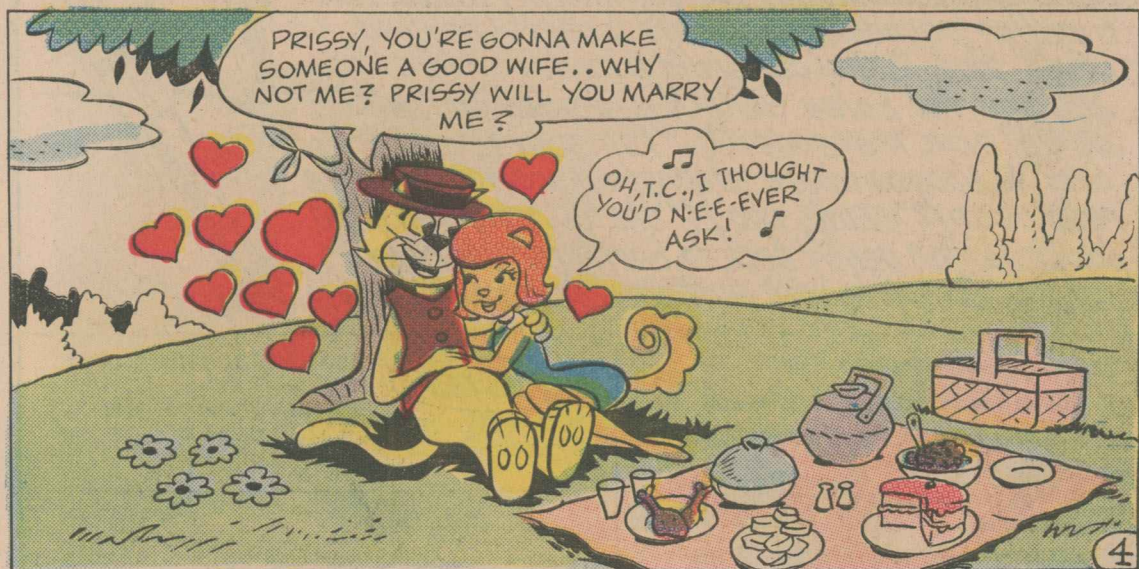


AS TIME
FLYS,
DAN CUPID
SCORES MANY
BULL'S EYES!

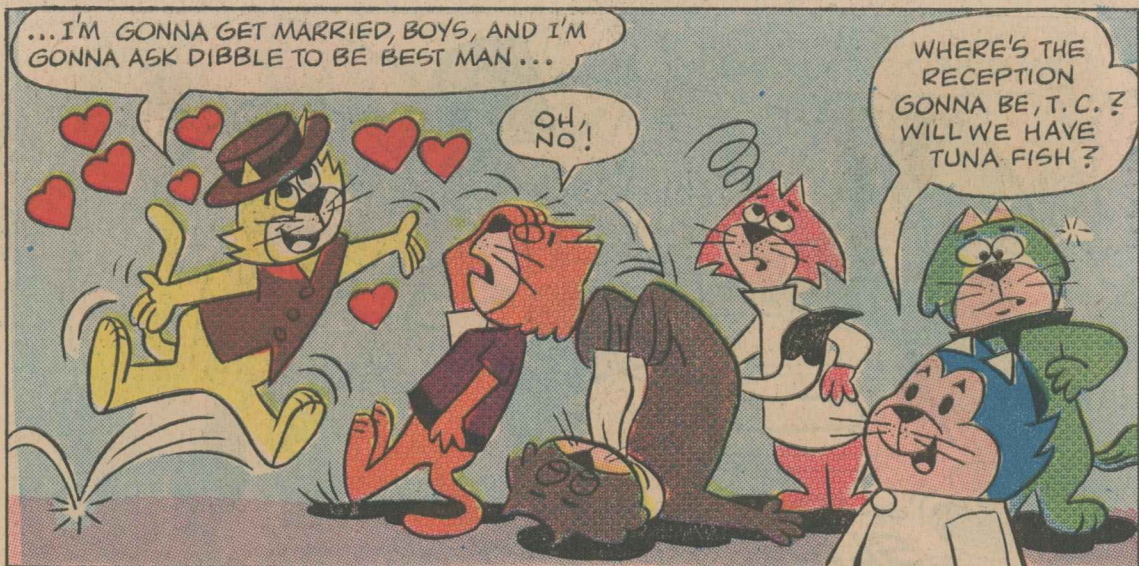


PRISSY, YOU'RE GONNA MAKE
SOMEONE A GOOD WIFE... WHY
NOT ME? PRISSY WILL YOU MARRY
ME?

OH, T.C., I THOUGHT
YOU'D N-E-E-VER
ASK!



CONTINUED AFTER THE NEXT PAGE



AND NOW COMES T.C.'S WEDDING DAY...



